

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

JANUARY 26th, 1865.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
MEMORIAL

OF THE

Directors of the Maryland Penitentiary

TO THE

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

OF MARYLAND.

ANNAPOLIS:

RICHARD P. BAYLY, PRINTER.

1865.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

ANNAPOLIS, *January 26th, 1865.*

To the House of Delegates:

GENTLEMEN:—The enclosed memorial addressed to your Honorable Body by the Directors of the Maryland Penitentiary, has been submitted to me by that Board, and in transmitting it to you I desire to express my entire concurrence in its views.

A. W. BRADFORD.

MARYLAND PENITENTIARY,

BALTIMORE, *23rd January, 1865.*

To the Honorable

the House of Delegates of Maryland:

The undersigned, Directors of the Maryland Penitentiary, beg leave to represent to your Honorable Body, that they have had sole charge of this Institution since their appointment by Gov. Bradford, in May 1862. They have given their personal attention to all the operations of the Institution in the strictest manner required by law; with what success their annual reports to the Governor, laid before your Honorable Body, and the reports of the various committees appointed to examine the condition of the Institution will attest. They do not claim to have done any more than their duty, or to have performed it better or even so well as it might have been done by other gentlemen who might have been appointed in their places.

But whatever degree of success has attended their efforts in bringing the Institution into a sound and healthy financial and moral condition is due to the fact that they have had entire control of all its expenditures for provisions, clothing, fuel, salaries of officers, &c.

And their main purpose now is to say, that any change restraining or controlling their authority in any of these particulars would seriously impair their usefulness, or that of any other board that might be appointed in their places.

The only change that occurs to them that could be made with advantage, would be to place the appointment of the Warden with the board of Directors.

So far the most perfect harmony has prevailed between the board of Directors and every one connected with the Institution and they have no reason to doubt that it will continue. But the fact that the subordinate officers of the Institution are threatening to approach your Honorable Body with a memorial for an appropriation, in order that their salaries may be increased, impels the Directors to say that such a movement is entirely irregular and improper and ought to be disregarded by your Honorable Body. The Directors think they are the proper judges of the compensation to be allowed to any of the subordinates of whom they have control; and as they have never found any difficulty in obtaining the services of competent officers at such salaries as in their judgment they thought proper to award, they do not doubt their ability to do the same in future. Should they be mistaken in this, however, and it should be found necessary to apply to your Honorable Body for an appropriation to increase the salaries of their subordinates, or for any other purpose, the Directors will make such application in due time and form, without any doubt, if proper reasons are shown therefor, that it will be responded to in the same liberal manner as every such appeal has been met heretofore.

But no such necessity is apparent at present and they hope it may not be for a long time.

In conclusion they would remark, that the salaries of the officers of the Institution have been advanced, since the present board of Directors assumed control of the Institution more than 40 per cent., and that any further change which in the judgment of the Directors circumstances will justify will be freely and promptly made.

Respectfully submitted to your Honorable Body by,

JNO. HURST,

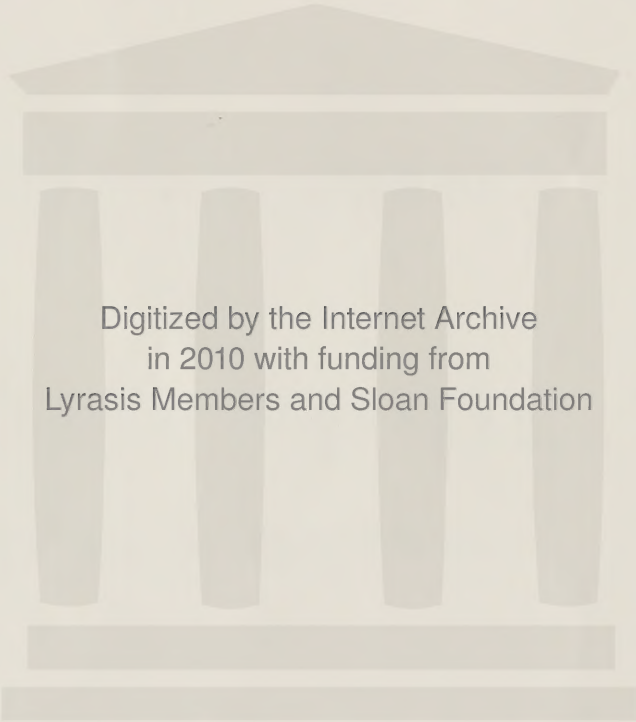
E. L. PARKER,

WM. CHESNUT,

G. W. WARD,

JOHN COATES,

Directors of the Maryland Penitentiary.



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